

to limit the benefit, making the physician certification language under section 1835 the same as that defining the benefit in section 1861(ff).

To address HCFA's lack of publishing regulations, the bill would require a negotiated rule making process to define the benefit, establish quality of care standards, and establish survey and certification standards for CMHCs.

I am introducing this bill now so that interested parties can study it over the adjournment period and suggest improvements. I will reintroduce the bill early in the new Congress, with appropriate refinements. For the sake of some of the most vulnerable in our society, I hope we can enact this kind of legislation early in 2001.

#### PIPELINE SAFETY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2000*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, pipeline safety is literally a matter of life and death. Legislation this important must be crafted carefully, allowing for the input of every member of Congress, since pipeline safety impacts every American community. Legislation this important must be brought through committee and to the Floor of the House of Representatives in an inclusive, nonpartisan manner. Sadly, this was not the case for yesterday's consideration of the Pipeline Safety Improvement Act.

S. 2438 faced significant opposition from consumer, environmental and labor groups, and was opposed by my own committee leadership. The bill did not ensure that pipelines would be inspected and did not do enough to help local emergency management agencies react to pipeline emergencies. Given these, and other concerns, and given the considerable opposition the bill faced, S. 2438 should not have been brought to the floor as a suspension calendar item. Mr. Speaker, we all know that the suspension calendar is meant to move noncontroversial, routine items. As such, these items are given little time for debate and no opportunity for amendment.

Had S. 2438 been brought for a vote in a more open manner, it could have won my support. It is my sincerest hope that the Republican leadership will take pipeline safety seriously and bring S. 2438 back to the House of Representatives in a manner that permits its further debate and possible improvement.

#### STATEMENT ON THE IMPORTANCE OF DATABASE PROTECTION

**HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 11, 2000*

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment to discuss the importance of legal protection for databases. Databases are extremely important to the continued growth of our hightech based economy. Within databases—organized collections of information—

lie the basic tools of the Information Age. The continued development of new and exciting database products depends on adequate legal protection from piracy. Over the past two Congresses we have grappled with the scope of protection that should be afforded database producers. We have worked hard to produce a well balanced approach. Unfortunately, we were unable to bring the development of this legislation to a close in time for consideration before this body. I believe that addressing this issue must be a priority for the 107th Congress and will do all that I can to facilitate passage of database protection legislation in the next Congress.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DAVID WU**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 11, 2000*

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, October 10, 2000, I was unavoidably detained due to airline mechanical problems. Had I been present, I would have voted the following ways:

No on rollcall No. 519, S. 2438, the Pipeline Safety Act.

Yes on rollcall No. 520, H.R. 208, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to allow for the contribution of certain rollover distributions to accounts in the Thrift Savings Plan, to eliminate certain waiting-period requirements for participating in the Thrift Savings Plan, and for other purposes.

Yes on rollcall No. 521, H.R. 762, Lupus Research and Care Amendments.

#### A TRIBUTE TO JAMES HILL FOR 25 YEARS OF GOVERNMENT SERVICE

**HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 11, 2000*

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend, Jim Hill, who is celebrating 25 dedicated years of government service.

I've known Jim since he worked as my chief of staff when I served in the Wisconsin State Senate in the 1970s. He came to the job an intelligent, energetic, enthusiastic and strongly principled young man, and quickly became a highly respected name in public service in the Wisconsin legislature. Jim's impressive understanding of issues made him a trusted and valued advisor during my years on the Senate's Joint Finance Committee, and his continued support was critical to my decision to run for Congress in 1984.

Jim remained in Wisconsin, and joined the staff of Wisconsin's Dane County Executive Jonathan Barry, where he gained experience in the challenges of county government. But soon he and I had the opportunity to work together again, this time in Washington, DC, where he became my administrative assistant (AA). Jim was a fast learner and an outstanding AA, quickly developing expertise on a myriad of issues while providing strong leadership to a young and inexperienced DC staff.

And although I know that Jim enjoyed the challenges of working on Capitol Hill, his first

priority was and is his family. Knowing that the job of AA was incredibly demanding and meant frequent long hours, Jim decided to go back to Wisconsin, where he joined the staff of the City of Milwaukee's Department of City Development and later worked for the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District.

Jim's strong sense of social justice and his outstanding management skills then led him to his current employment with Milwaukee County's Department of Human Services, where he serves as administrator of the Division of Management Services. And, after 25 years of public service, he remains a well-respected and active member of our community, a man of unquestioned integrity and dedication.

And despite holding positions of enormous responsibility, Jim has always maintained a healthy balance between his job and his family life. He is a dedicated father of two wonderful and talented sons, Patrick (who I am proud to say is my godson) and Daniel. He's also a devoted and loving husband to his wife, Christine.

Throughout the past 25 years, Jim has remained one of my closest and most valued friends. He's always been there for me, in good times and in bad, and has been a trusted advisor and an ardent, vocal and hard-working supporter. I thank him for his friendship, and commend him for 25 years of outstanding service to our community, our state, and our nation. Congratulations, Jim!

#### CONGRATULATING THE AFRICA BUREAU OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 11, 2000*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate the Africa Bureau of the Department of State for leading a successful campaign against the candidacy of the government of Sudan to the rotating seat of the United Nations Security Council.

On October 10th the United Nations voted 113–55 in favor of Mauritius over Sudan to take a seat on the Security Council. I would like to single out Assistant Secretary of State for Africa, Dr. Susan E. Rice, for her courage, determination, and hard work in this campaign. Dr. Susan Rice has stood firm against the brutal dictatorship of the National Islamic Front government in Sudan. In that light, she has exemplified the leadership ability that is required and needed to move those countries on the African continent toward good governance and democratic reform.

For the last five years, both at the National Security Council and the Africa Bureau of the Department of State, she consistently and tirelessly fought for the helpless and the innocent victims of the NIF regime.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN MOULTRIE "MOOT" TRULUCK, III

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 11, 2000*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute